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Agricultural Marketing Service
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 5/12/59

Week Ending 5/11/59

WEATHER Average temperatures were near normal in the east, but the week was cool in the central and western portions of the State. Temperature changes from one day to the next were much smaller than usual. Rainfall was light to moderate over a belt extending from the southwestern to the north central portion of the State, and heavy to excessive elsewhere, with rain on three to five days at the various stations.

April temperatures averaged near normal in the east, and a little below elsewhere over the State. Precipitation was very light over most of the western third of the State, and generally a little below normal elsewhere except the East Central Division, which received a little more than the normal amount of moisture. There were no unusual temperature extremes during the month.

CROPS Generous rains over most of the State halted fieldwork, stopping corn planting which was just getting underway. The moisture relieved dry surface soil conditions which were developing in some eastern and north eastern counties. It was a boon to the counties along the Platte River and the northeast where rainfall has been below normal since last fall. Some sections of the Sandhills and the southwest part of the State received only light rains and still need a good rain.

While rains added to the soggiess of some southeastern Nebraska fields where ground preparation already had been held up by wet fields, they were timely for many areas of the State, putting the soil in shape for planting row crops.

Corn planting was beginning early in the week, but less than 5 percent of the crop had been planted. Planting is expected to get underway again in the next few days if clear weather prevails. Usually over 10 percent of the crop is planted by May 10. At the end of last week, planting was about four days behind schedule. It should catch up quickly as soon as the ground dries.

Winter wheat made excellent progress during the week. It has reached the jointing stage in southern counties with some fields 15 to 18 inches high. Spring grains made marked progress also, although cool weather continued to cause some delay in growth. Pastures picked up a little, but are mostly slow with short growth so far this season. They should pick up fast with warmer weather now that surface moisture supplies are restored. Ranges in parts of the Sandhills have been slow starting partly because of cool temperatures and partly due to lack of moisture.

Alfalfa and wild hay prospects showed a gain last week. These crops are also late in development this season.

LIVESTOCK In general, livestock made good gains during the week. Stocker and feeder cattle and calves shipped into Nebraska during April were 102,000 head, 67 percent above the 61,000 head received in April 1958. Since January 1, cattle inshipments total 332,000 head, an increase of 50 percent from the corresponding period last year. Sheep and lamb inshipments during April were 29,000 head compared with 9,000 head a year earlier.

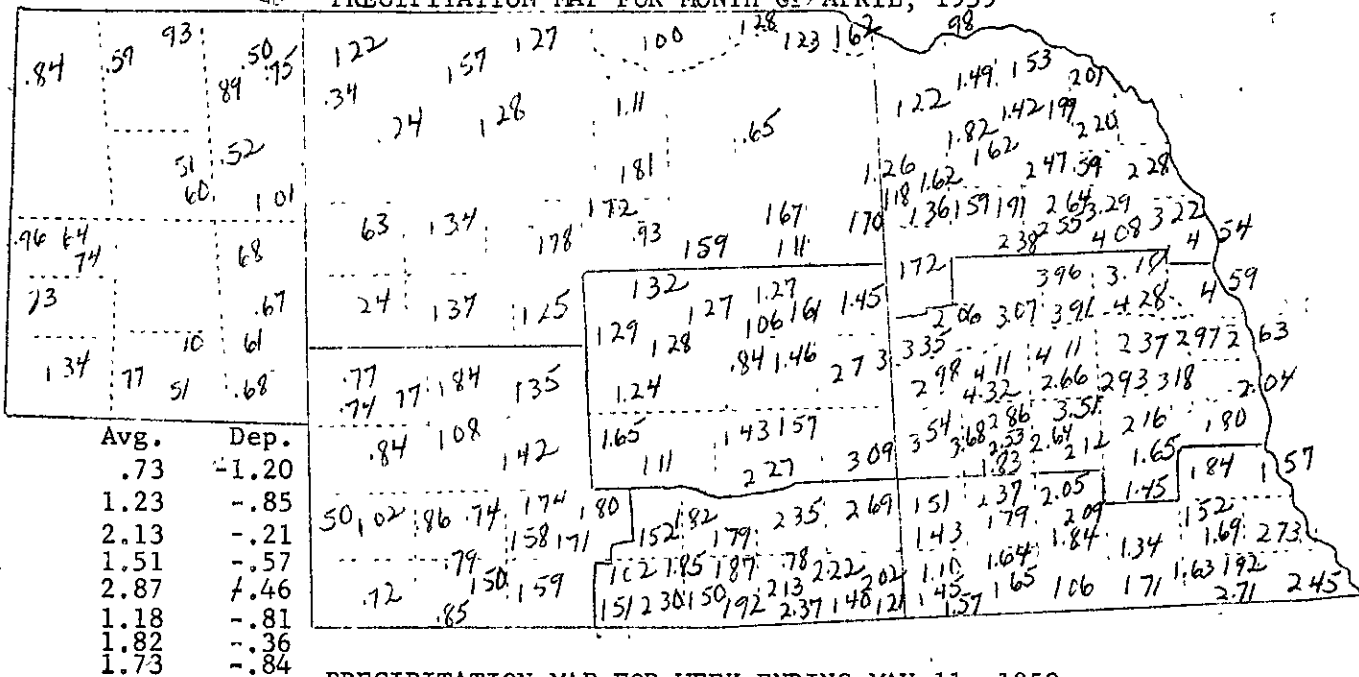
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 1959

	<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>
Grand Island	3.01	Burwell	1.05	Chadron	1.81
Lincoln	3.22	North Platte	.61	Imperial	.79
Norfolk	3.51	Valentine	.60	Scottsbluff	1.65
Omaha	4.64			Sidney	1.85
Sioux City	2.85				

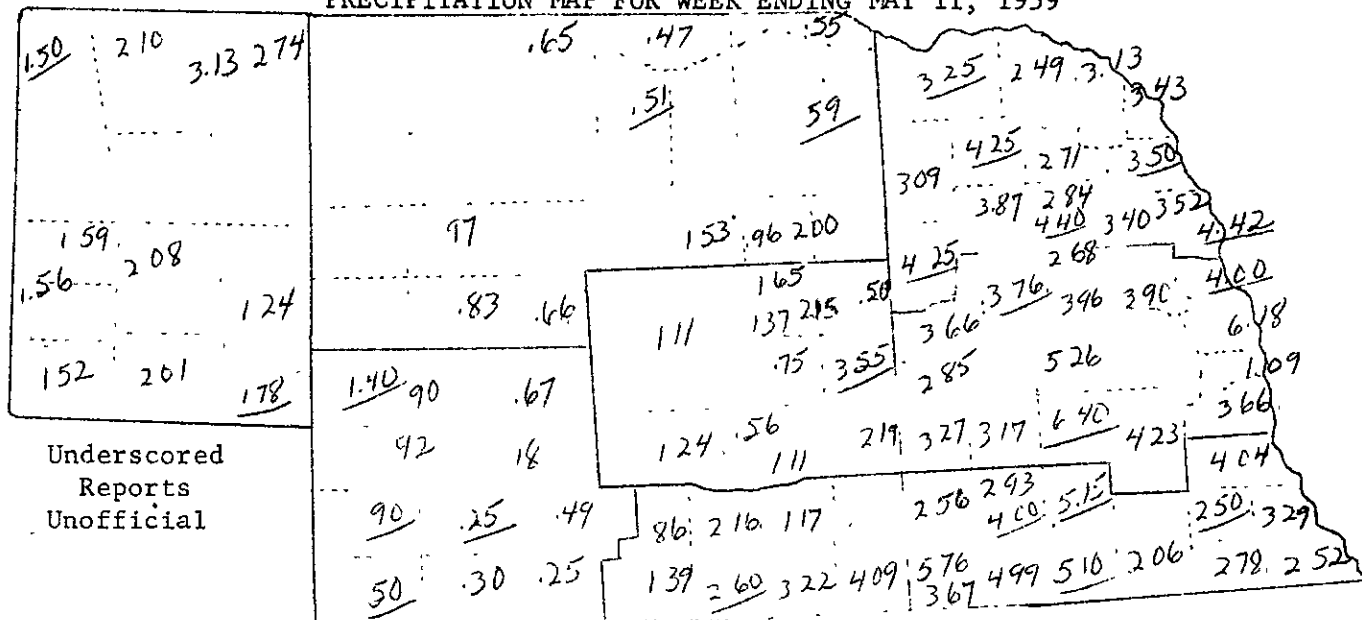
Precipitation, April 1-May 8, 1959

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	2.05	.96	3.16	1.39	3.45	.54	2.69	3.41
Total since April 1	3.62	3.10	6.13	3.46	6.56	2.51	4.96	5.81
Long-time Avg. since April 1	2.60	2.79	3.07	2.78	3.29	2.74	2.96	3.55

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1959



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 1959



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		May 5th		6th		7th		8th		9th		10th		11th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	49	40	58	39	49	35	55	45	57	38	74	41	60	35
	Scottsbluff	55	41	61	38	60	32	43	41	52	41	75	40	62	37
	Sidney	54	---	56	33	60	33	42	41	51	44	71	40	60	39
NC	Burwell	75	46	51	42	68	45	50	44	64	40	61	47	63	41
	Valentine	52	41	58	35	63	39	52	46	59	50	62	41	60	37
NE	Norfolk	79	60	65	43	62	46	58	49	68	50	58	52	64	42
	Sioux City	82	61	70	45	62	46	57	47	69	53	59	52	69	41
Cen	Grand Island	75	58	62	45	64	50	63	49	64	49	66	52	65	42
EC	Lincoln	81	61	69	49	64	48	64	50	66	52	64	58	71	47
	Omaha	81	60	68	48	61	45	59	48	65	52	61	56	69	46
SW	Imperial	76	---	61	36	67	43	52	42	53	48	74	46	63	40
	North Platte	76	43	59	34	68	42	53	46	57	49	73	44	65	47

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